



On-site Review

Of The

Kansas State Fair

In Operation

October 2004

(Final Report)



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KANSAS

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October 25, 2004

This report is dedicated to Larry Ankerholtz a man dedicated to his faith, family, friends and the Fair. Accessibility was not just a word; but a heartfelt mission which he is still helping us accomplish.

The State of Kansas submits to the Court and the general public the 2004 On-Site Review of the Kansas State Fair. This On-Site Review is a supplement to the ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan that was first filed with the Court in May 2004. The State again contracted with ADA Inc., to produce this report.

Three main areas were evaluated for this report. The first area evaluated was the amusement rides. The report outlines opportunities to improve access to a ride but also stresses the fundamental point that there are no enforceable regulations for amusement rides at this time. Moreover, while there are non-enforceable regulations proposed in 15.1 of ADAAG, those regulations do not address non-permanent rides. Nonetheless, the State is prepared to commit to the following arrangements. First, the Fair will undertake a further evaluation of its permanent rides, which is currently underway, to improve access where it is reasonable and responsible. Rides will not be altered where it fundamentally alters the nature of the ride itself. Second, the Fair accepts the recommendation to work with the industry and vendors to attempt to bring in rides that are accessible. This is a long term commitment which can at this point have no completion date because of the factors outlined above.

The second area evaluated in the report is that of food and other vendor stations. As stated in the report, the Fair has and will continue to work with vendors in order to achieve increased access. A number of program accessibility options have been considered such as providing someone to deliver food at vendor stations or providing a free standing area, such as a table, which would be accessible to people with disabilities, while at the same time avoiding an undue hardship on vendors who only use a vehicle or mobile trailer.

The third area evaluated in the report is how the Fair manages its programs like concerts. The report demonstrates that the Fair provides access a number of ways such as interpreters and that staff will also assist patrons by bringing concessions to people with

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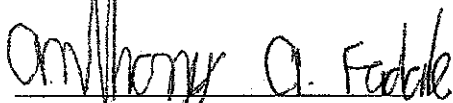
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disabilities during concerts. Another policy area the State will review is ways to provide some family style seating at concerts and grandstand events. As provided in the previous ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan, the issue of family style seating will be addressed in conjunction with the final accessibility determination involving the grandstand.

As to the overall fair grounds, the Fair will be reviewing and adopting new policies outlining which types of devices will be allowed on the grounds. The policy will be designed to allow for appropriate access devices such as wheelchairs, while eliminating those machines which have a greater ability to harm patrons.

The State of Kansas and the Kansas State Fair would like to thank all of the patrons of the Fair who have taken the time to provide comments and feedback concerning the evaluation and transition process. As the Fair grows and expands everyone is committed to ensuring that the Kansas State Fair is accessible to all in a meaningful way.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Anthony A. Faddale". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Anthony A. Faddale
State ADA Coordinator

Executive Summary

Representatives of Accessibility Development Associates, Inc. (ADA, Inc.) visited the Kansas State Fair from September 8, 2004 through September 12, 2004. The purpose of the visit was to finish reviewing the Kansas State Fair for compliance with title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

ADA, Inc. staff reviewed the Fair while it was in operation to gather information that was not available during the initial inspections. The Kansas State Fair program includes many aspects and elements that are only available or “in place” while the annual State Fair is in operation. There are portable concessions of many types; these include food vendors, amusement rides and games of chance. Concerts and auto races are held at the Grandstand, as well as various performances, exhibits and judging competitions throughout the Fairground.

In addition, ADA, Inc. staff conducted interviews of fair patrons with disabilities to learn about their experiences regarding accessibility at the Kansas State Fair. The interviews were compiled and they are included in Appendix B of this report.

Amusement Ride and Concessionaire Issues

It is an open question whether rides exist that are independently accessible to people with mobility impairments. An informal study of the web sites of ride manufacturers failed to locate a manufacturer that even mentions accessibility or ADA compliance.

The Kansas State Fair has a contractual obligation with its vendors requiring them to comply with the ADA. The Fair itself has an ADA obligation not to discriminate by using vendors whose products or services violate the ADA. However, it may be that the Fair vendors cannot obtain amusement rides that are accessible as defined by the ADA. The Fair thus faces the question of using vendors who supply a non-compliant product or using no vendors at all.

If the Fair does not use these vendors it will suffer financial harm due to lost revenues. A lack of amusement rides would also constitute a fundamental alteration in the nature of the Kansas State Fair.

It is the recommendation of ADA, Inc. that the Kansas State Fair continue to pursue ride vendors who have amusement rides with accessible features. It is an unpleasant truth that there do not appear to be many, if there are any at all.

The Kansas State Fair is an outdoor recreational area. Typically, such areas have a reduced expectation of accessibility. Outdoor recreation areas, such as a fairground, typically involve varying degrees of development and modifications. Some areas are highly modified and equate closely with the built environment. Other areas may have varying degrees of modification, to provide patrons with an outdoor feeling during their fairground experience.

It is important to remember that at a title II facility such as the Kansas State Fair, every building and facility does not have to be accessible. The program known as the Kansas State Fair must be accessible to and usable by people with disabilities when the program is viewed in its entirety.

Section I - Grandstand

GRANDSTAND STAFF

The staff assigned to the wheelchair seating section were clearly willing to provide any assistance needed to assure a pleasant Fair experience for patrons in the wheelchair seating section. This included going to concession stands for patrons, or going to other sections of the Grandstand to bring down family members.



SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

Sign language interpreters were provided at the request of patrons of the Clay Aiken concert, who provided only 48 hours notice of their needs. The interpreters were spot-lighted to make it easier for deaf patrons to see them. Patrons with hearing disabilities were seated in the wheelchair seating section to provide a better opportunity for them to see the interpreters, as well as to observe the lip movement of the performers on stage.

A deaf patron suggested that sign language interpreters should be shown on a large screen. In her words, conveyed via a handwritten note: "Need a big screen-show interpreter hands. Interpreter stand on stage-person who sit up high can't see interpreter hands." She said this would make it possible for patrons who are deaf to be seated throughout the Grandstand while still being able to see the interpreters.

SUGGESTIONS

- ❑ Two large video screens were in use at both concerts viewed by ADA, Inc. staff. It is the suggestion of ADA, Inc. that the Kansas State Fair explore options for providing a better view of sign language interpreters. One option may be to insert a view of the interpreters as a "picture in picture" on the video screens. This can be easily accomplished by positioning a single stationary camera aimed at the interpreter. Another option may be to use an additional screen that would show only the interpreters.

- ❑ ADA, Inc. would also recommend that the Fair establish a policy on the timeframe for patron notification of the need for an interrupter to provide guidance to patrons. This would also allow for sufficient time to secure such services by the Fair.

WHEELCHAIR SEATING

The Kansas State Fair established a temporary policy until such time that the Court decides on how the Fair can proceed with the wheelchair seating section at the Grandstand. This temporary policy states that in the event that the wheelchair seating section is sold out, free seating is provided to people who use wheelchairs and their companions at ground level, where the concert can be seen on large video screens. This is not an ADA compliance requirement, it is something offered by the Kansas State Fair in the spirit of offering a pleasant Fair experience for patrons with disabilities.



BACK STAGE

There is no accessible route to the backstage area of the Grandstand for people who use wheelchairs or who cannot lift their feet over a step. The path of travel from the Pass Gate requires crossing the dirt track to the back stage area. There is a portable ramp available to correct a change in level at the entrance of the back stage area. This ramp does not completely overcome the change in level, leaving a barrier that can prevent independent entry by a person using a wheelchair. Modifications are required for compliance.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Replace the existing portable ramp with one that does not have a change in level at the top of the ramp. The transition from the ramp to the surface of the backstage area should be smooth and even. The maximum slope for the portable ramp should be 1:12, meaning that for every one inch of rise there should be one foot of horizontal run. Or,
- ❑ Relocate the backstage area to a new location that would provide an accessible route and access for all patrons who are authorized to go backstage.

Section II – Amusement Rides

There are a number of regulatory issues relevant to the amusement rides at the Kansas State Fair. The ADA does not have enforceable standards for amusement rides. The best information available comes from the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, commonly known as the Access Board. The Access Board is the federal agency which develops minimum guidelines and requirements for standards issued under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Access Board has produced an advisory document titled “Accessible Amusement Rides”. The many organizations that participated in the process of developing the Amusement Ride Guidelines include the National Council on Independent Living and the Outdoor Amusement Business Association.

This document provides guidelines that can be used to provide a measure of accessibility for amusement rides. Amusement rides are defined in the guidelines as “a system that moves people through a fixed course within a defined area for the purpose of amusement”. The guidelines do not apply to vehicles such as trams. The guidelines are for newly designed, newly constructed or altered amusement rides. The guideline is “...not a collection of amusement ride designs. Rather, it provides specifications for elements of amusement rides to create a general level of usability for individuals with disabilities.”

It is important to remember that the information for amusement rides is not an enforceable standard, which means that using these standards is not required for compliance with the ADA. It is, however, the best guidance currently available.

In the advisory, portable; mobile rides such as those used in traveling carnivals and state fairs do not need to comply. ADA, Inc.’s report will examine a representative sample of the portable amusement rides as well as the permanent rides. Suggestions will be made to improve the accessibility of the various rides, based on the Amusement Ride Guidelines of the Access Board.

There are two classes of amusement rides at the Kansas State Fair. There are permanently installed rides and rides that are brought in by outside concessionaires. Concessionaires are obligated by contract to comply with the ADA.

Permanent Rides

YE OLD MILL

The Old Mill was evaluated during the initial phase of this project. The following comments are an addition to the previous report.

The Old Mill is a water ride. Patrons sit in a small boat and ride through a darkened funhouse.

ENTRY

There is a 5 ½" step at the entrance of the ride. Patrons with mobility impairments are offered the use of a portable ramp. The ramp was not available for evaluation; it was being repaired. Modifications may be required for compliance. ADA, Inc. could not determine whether the portable ramp complies with the requirements of the ADAAG. Modifications are required for compliance.



TRANSFER AND SEATING

There is no transfer system available at the Fair that would allow a person using a wheelchair to transfer from their wheelchair into and out of a boat without assistance.

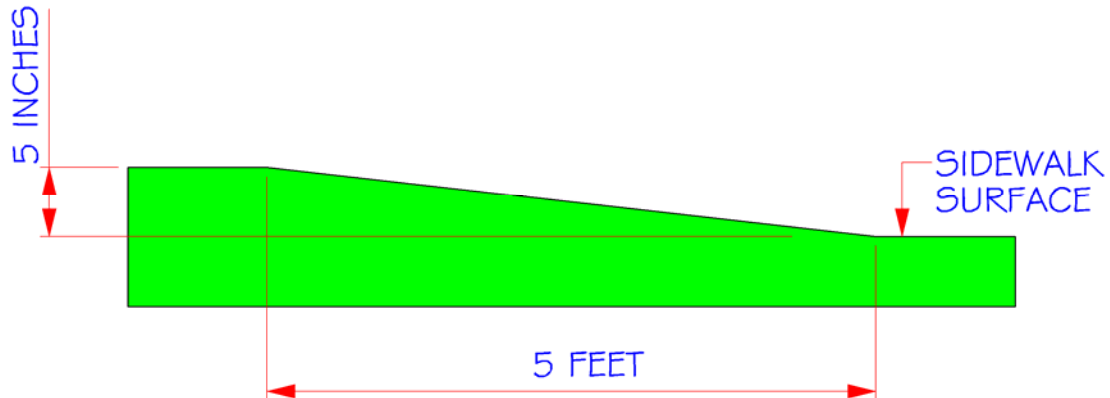
The ride operators assert that they routinely provide assistance to anyone who wants to ride the boats.

There is adequate clear space, in excess of the 30" by 48" minimum, at the boarding location to allow a person using a wheelchair to board a boat. The boats do not have enough space for a standard wheelchair seating location.

The boats do not have wheelchair seating locations. The ride operators said that they do not believe that the boats would support the weight of a person in a motorized wheelchair without sinking the boat.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- The portable ramp must have a maximum slope of 1:12. For every one inch of rise, there must be at least one foot of horizontal run. The transition from the ramp surface to the ride area must be smooth and without abrupt changes.



1:12 SLOPE RATIO

- Install signage informing Fair patrons that a portable ramp is available upon request. The signage should be located at the entrance to the waiting line.
- It may not be feasible to provide wheelchair seating in a boat for this ride.

LAKE TALBOT

Lake Talbot is a scenic vista at the Northwest end of the Fairgrounds, with a small pier. The initial report did not call for modifications in this area. The addition of the rental boats requires a different approach.

There is no accessible route to the pier. The path of travel is the grassy slope of hill leading down to two sets of stairs. Modifications are required for compliance. During the fair, small paddle boats are available for rent. There is no transfer system available that would allow a person using a wheelchair to transfer into a boat.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide an accessible route to the pier. Stairs cannot be part of an accessible route.

SKY RIDE

The Sky Ride has equipment permanently in place, but the actual seats are only installed during Fair operation by the ride operator. The ride can be either one-way or round trip. In a one-way ride, the passenger disembarks at the area where the ride changes direction.

TICKET BOOTHS

There are ticket booths at each end of the Sky Ride. The booth at Ft. Leavenworth Blvd. and 20th Ave. (Booth #1) is on an accessible route. The booth at the other end (Booth #2), across from the Expo Pavilion, is not on an accessible route. It sits on a curb. Modifications are required for compliance.



SKY RIDE TICKET BOOTH #1



SKY RIDE TICKET BOOTH #2

Both ticket booths have service windows that are too high for compliance, 39" and 42" respectively. Modifications are required for compliance.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Modify both ticket booths to provide a service window with a maximum height of 36" and a minimum length of 36".
- ❑ Relocate Booth #2 so that it is on an accessible route. One approach would be to move the ticket booth back onto the grassy area at the rear of the ride and install a curb ramp in front of the booth.

TRANSFER AND SEATING

There is adequate clear space at each load point to allow a person using a wheelchair to board or disembark from the ride. There are no transfer devices or systems to assist patrons to board or disembark the Sky Ride.

At the time of the evaluation, Sky Ride operators indicated that they would stop the ride and provide assistance for people with disabilities who want to board or disembark. The seating of the Sky Ride is 20" high. A person who cannot support themselves on their legs cannot use the ride unless someone lifts them into the seat.

Lifting a person in this manner is not recommended.

TRAIN

The train is a miniature one, well suited to children and less suited to adult riders.

There is adequate clear space at the Train Station to load and unload passengers who use mobility aids and to store such aids safely. There are no accessible seating locations on the train. There is a 12" step into the train. There are no devices or transfer systems at the Train Station that would allow a person using a wheelchair to get into the train.

SUGGESTION

- ❑ We suggest ordering a new train car with an accessible seating location and, if feasible, space for a companion seat. The car would need a lift, such as the one used on the Tram.

The Train is an existing ride. As such, this is a suggestion to increase accessibility. It is not a requirement for compliance.



TRAIN TRACKS

Detectable warnings have been installed at several locations where the train tracks cross the streets or during Fair operation; pedestrian walkways. The detectable warnings are 36" wide and run the full length of the tracks. The warnings comply with the requirements of Section 4.29.2 and 4.29.4.



Warning signs are also in place at several track crossings, to alert patrons with hearing disabilities to beware of the train. Although not required for ADA compliance, the warning signs are a useful addition.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Install detectable warnings at all locations where the train tracks cross the streets. The streets become pedestrian ways when the fair is in operation (Section 4.29.5).



Portable Rides

Portable rides are brought in on a contractual basis by outside vendors. This section will examine a representative sample of the portable rides in place during the ADA, Inc. evaluation. Each ride evaluated will be commented on individually.

FERRIS WHEEL (located at Carnival Midway and Pride of Kansas Avenue)

The Ferris Wheel is on an accessible route, complying with Section 4.3.

There is no accessible route to the cars of the Ferris Wheel. There are two ramps, one for entry and one to exit. The ramps lead to a pair of stairs. Stairs cannot be part of an accessible route (Section 4.3.8).

Each ramp is 32" wide, and each ramp has a change in level 2" high where the ramp rests on the ground.



Neither ramp complies with ADAAG ramp requirements in Section 4.8.

The boarding area is larger than the minimum requirement of 30" by 48".

No transfer devices are available at the Ferris Wheel. There are no wheelchair seating locations available on the Ferris Wheel.

CONVOY

The Convoy ride is a children's ride. It has a ramp 31 ½" wide, with a slope of 24.2%, far in excess of the maximum 8.33% allowed for ADA compliance. There is a 2 ½" step where the ramp hits the ground.



There is adequate space to load or unload from the cars. There are no cars with wheelchair seating locations. There are no transfer systems available at the Convoy ride that would permit a person to transfer into a car. Such systems are not required for children's rides, according to the Access Board Guidelines for Amusement Rides.

The load and unload areas of the Convoy are not on an accessible route. These areas are at the top of the ramp, which is not on an accessible route.

MARDI GRAS

The Mardi Gras is a children's ride. It has three steps up to the cars. Steps and stairs cannot be part of an accessible route (Section 4.3.8). The Mardi Gras has no accessible cars, nor does it have any transfer system that would allow a child to transfer from a wheelchair into a car without assistance. Such systems are not required for children's rides, according to the Access Board Guidelines for Amusement Rides.

ORBITER

The Orbiter has an entrance ramp 22 ½" wide. There are handrails on each side, 43" high measured from the ramp surface to the top of the gripping surface. The slope of the ramp is greatly in excess of the maximum ramp slope of 8.33%. There is a 2" lip where the ramp meets the ground.

There is adequate maneuvering space in the load/unload area.

There are no cars with wheelchair seating locations.

There is no transfer system that would permit a person to transfer from a wheelchair into a car.

There is no ride seat designated to facilitate transferring from a wheelchair to the ride seat.



SCOOTER (BUMPER CARS)

The Scooter has a ramp width of 24". The slope of the ramp is 31.6%, far in excess of the 8.33% maximum for ADA compliance.



There is no accessible route from the top of the ramp to any of the cars; there is a 4 ½" step down onto the ride platform.

There is no transfer system that would permit a person to transfer from a wheelchair into a scooter car.

GIANT GONDOLA WHEEL

The Giant Gondola Wheel has two ramps. The ramp from the street to the gate has a slope which varies from 12.9% to 15.4%. The slope of the ramp from the gate to the car varies from 12.5% to 14.2%. A 12.5% slope is only acceptable where it is structurally or operationally infeasible to provide a standard maximum slope of 8.33%. ADA, Inc. cannot comment on the structural or operational feasibility of modifying the slope to the cars. The width of the queuing line varies from 34"-36".

POWER SURGE

There is no accessible route to the ride. There are five steps leading to the entrance of Power Surge. Steps or stairs cannot be part of an accessible route (Section 4.3.8).

CHAOS

The ramp from the gate to the street has a slope that varies between 9.4% to 13.2% and has a 4" step where the ramp meets the street. The ramp from the gate to the cars varies from 7.4% to 8.8%. The slope of this ramp complies with Section 4.8.



There is no level area where a person using a wheelchair could stop their chair and transfer onto a car seat.

SUGGESTIONS TO INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY OF PORTABLE RIDES

The portable rides share common problem areas:

- ❑ The ramps evaluated are too steep for compliance, with a single exception.
- ❑ There are steps leading to rides.
- ❑ Rides do not have wheelchair seating locations, seats designed to facilitate independent transfer or transfer systems that would allow a person using a wheelchair to transfer onto a ride seat.

Few suggestions have been made to improve the accessibility of the amusement rides evaluated. The measures necessary to provide any meaningful measure of accessibility would require major renovation of the rides themselves.

Section III – Food Concessionaires

There are permanent food concessions, which are located in buildings on the grounds of the Kansas State Fair, and there are concessions that are brought in for the duration of the Fair only.

The permanent concessions were evaluated during the initial phase of the project. A number of these concessions have made compliance modifications in the interim period between visits of ADA, Inc. staff.

PRONTO PUP (GRANDSTAND AND BISON BLVD.)

The various Pronto Pup concessions stands have provided a lower service counter in the period between evaluations.

There is a window cover that swings out to become a sort of roof, providing an area in front of the service windows that is sheltered from the sun. This cover is 78 ½" high off the ground and several feet in length, making it a protruding object.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Take measures to raise the cover at least 1 ½". ADA compliance requires that an overhead object such as the cover must be at least 80" above the ground, to protect people with visual disabilities (Section 4.4.1).

OUR LADY OF GUADALOUPE

The entrance and exit were the subject of comments from Fair patrons that were interviewed about their Fair experience. Our Lady of Guadeloupe was evaluated during the initial phase of the project. There are steep changes in level at the entrance and exit doors which have not been modified as of our second visit.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Follow the recommendations presented in the initial report.

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES (PRIDE OF KANSAS AVE. SPACE # 304)

The service window is 44" high.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

BLOOMING ONION (PRIDE OF KANSAS AVE., SPACE # 306)

The service window is 44" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

TIM'S BACKYARD BURGERS

This location was evaluated in the previous phase of the project, under the name of a different vendor. Tim's is located in a building that looks like a garage. Entry is primarily through the always open garage door.

The garage door opening has a 1" change in level. Modifications are required for compliance.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Where there is a change in level on an accessible route greater than 1/4", then measures must be taken to address it (4.3.8). Make the transition through the entrance smooth and level. There are a number of ways this can be done. A ramp with a one foot horizontal run could be installed, but this is not the only possible solution.

R.A. SEVIER CONCESSIONS

R.A. Sevier, in response to Fair request stemming from the previous evaluation, has provided a lowered section of service counter. The new section is 37" high.

The maximum height for a service counter where sales take place is 36" (Section 7.2 (1)). ADA, Inc. views the 1" discrepancy as a non-issue in this instance. The concession operator asserts that his staff is required to bring the food to any patron who has difficulty at the counter.

CAFÉ PEPPERONI PIZZA

The service window is 43" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

ITALIAN SAUSAGE/CORN DOGS

The service window is 48" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

FRESH LEMONADE/JUMBO CORN DOGS (COTTONWOOD AVE)

The service window is 47 ¾" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

ROTTEN RODNEY'S (COTTONWOOD AVENUE)

Rotten Rodney's is not on an accessible route. It is on a concrete pad with a 1" change in level. The service window is 44" high. Modifications are required for compliance.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Take measures to overcome the 1" change in level (Section 4.3.8). This can be done by installing a ramp with a 1' horizontal run, or by other means.
- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

KREHBIELS SPECIALY MEATS (PRIDE OF KANSAS AVE AND BISON BLVD.)

The roof over the service window is 78" high. The service window is 53 ½" high. The seating area is composed of picnic tables. There is no 36" wide aisle space between the tables.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ ADA compliance requires that an overhead object such as the cover must be at least 80" above the ground, to protect people with visual disabilities (Section 4.4.1).
- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

SUGGESTION

- ❑ Provide an aisle at least 36" wide between tables, to allow patrons who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids an opportunity to dine with friends and family. This is not a compliance requirement; it is a suggestion to improve accessibility and a better Fair experience for patrons with disabilities.

ROAD HOUSE DELI

The Road House Deli has taken the steps recommended in the previous report. They have installed directional signage to an accessible entrance and provided a lowered section of service counter 36" high.

The lowered section is 26" wide, not the required 36". ADA, Inc. views the discrepancy as a non-issue in this instance. The concession operator asserts that his staff will bring the food to any patrons who have difficulty at the counter.

MIDDLE RIVER, MN SANDWICHES (20TH AVE)

Middle River Sandwiches is not on an accessible route. The only path of travel requires crossing a curb and going up a step. Steps and curbs are changes in level that are not permitted on an accessible route (Section 4.3.8).



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ The installation of a curb ramp on one side or the other of the concession stand would provide an accessible route through the curb, allowing a person using a wheelchair to approach the concession stand from the side, without having to overcome the step in front of the stand.

GIANT TENDERLOIN DELI SANDWICHES (20TH AVE)

Giant Tenderloin is not on an accessible route. The only path of travel requires crossing a curb and going up a step. Steps and curbs are changes in level that are not permitted on an accessible route (Section 4.3.8)



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ The installation of a curb ramp on one side or the other of the concession stand would provide an accessible route through the curb, allowing a person using a wheelchair to approach the concession stand from the side, without having to overcome the step in front of the stand.

ZEIGLER CONCESSIONS (20TH AVE.)

Ziegler Concessions is not on an accessible route. The only path of travel requires crossing a curb. Curbs are changes in level that are not permitted on an accessible route (Section 4.3.8)

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ The installation of a curb ramp on one side or the other of the concession stand would provide an accessible route through the curb, allowing a person using a wheelchair to approach the concession stand from the side, without having to overcome the step in front of the stand.

ACCESSIBLE ROUTE TO 20TH AVENUE CONCESSIONS

Ziegler Concessions, Giant Tenderloin and Middle River, MN Sandwiches locations reflect a larger problem. All but one of the concessions on one side of 20th Avenue are located on a grassy area bordered by a curb. A curb cannot be part of an accessible route. Only the Petting Zoo is on an accessible route.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ ADA, Inc. recommends that the curb on the North side of 20th Avenue be removed. This would allow people who use mobility aids to take various paths of travel to the different concessions.

ADA, Inc. does not view the grass surface of this location as an access barrier. It is a basic part of an outdoor recreational area.

MONKEY SHINE ICE CREAM

The service window is 41 ½" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

LEIMON'S PIZZA

The service window is 41 ½" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

MEL'S DINER

Mel's Diner has a service counter 46" high. There is also an outdoor service area that offers equivalent service. No modifications are being recommended.

OLD FASHIONED ICE CREAM

Old Fashioned Ice Cream has made the modifications recommended in the previous phase of the project. They have modified the entrance for accessibility.



1/3 POUND POLISH SAUSAGE (FT. RILEY AND GRANDSTAND AVE.)

There is no directional signage showing the accessible route to the rear dining area. There are two entrances to this area. There is a mat covering electrical cables at one entrance which provides some help, but there is still a 1" change in level.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Install signage at the entrance that does not have the cables to overcome. It can simply show the International Symbol of Accessibility and say "Entrance". Avoid using the term "Handicapped Entrance." ADA, Inc. would also recommend providing directional signage at the entrance illustrated on the previous page directing patrons to the accessible entrance.

THE PEPPER SHACK

The service window is 54" high.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

FUNNEL CAKES AND LEMONADE (PRIDE OF KANSAS BLVD)

There is an area of broken concrete leading to the service window. Vendor asserts that Fair personnel broke out the concrete and did not replace it. This area means the vendor is not on an accessible route, with a change in level between 1 ½" and 2". There are two service windows, 48" high and 48 ½" high.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Smooth out the broken concrete so that there is no change in level greater than ¼" (Section 4.3.8).
- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

SLOPPY JOES AND BIEROCKS

Sloppy Joes and Bierocks is not on an accessible route. The broken concrete at the front of the concrete pad has a 1 ¾" change in level. Vendor reports that the Fair was supposed to fix the concrete but had not. The service window is 54 ½" high.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Repair the broken concrete so there is no change in level greater than ¼" on the path of travel to the service window (Section 4.3.8).
- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

Section IV – Buildings and Facilities

Bison Arena

Entrance

The Bison Arena resembles a large barn, with the identified entrance for people with disabilities being the barn door. The door was closed during the initial evaluation of Bison Arena. It was open on the second visit, revealing a change in level averaging 1”.



The Concession Stand at Bison Arena was mistakenly identified as a Ticket Booth in the initial report. However, the areas of non-compliance remain the same as they were originally. The service counters are 38” and 42” high.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Take measures to overcome the change in level at the designated accessible entrance. A temporary ramp could be installed during the operation of the Fair which could be removed to close the door.

A ramp slope of between 1:8 to 1:10 is permitted for a 3” rise. We suggest a slope of 1:12 (Section 4.1.6 (3) (a) (i)).

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

Oz

ENTRANCE

There are three entrances to Oz. The entrance on Pride of Kansas Blvd. is not an accessible entrance.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Install directional signage at this entrance directing people to the accessible entrance on Fort Riley Blvd. or the one on 20th Ave. Accessible entrances, where not all entrances are accessible, must display the International Symbol of Accessibility (Section 4.1.2 (7) (c)).

SANDWICH PLACE

The counter height is 38".

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

KANSAS STATE PATROL

The information counter at the State Patrol exhibit is 44" high. Officers present indicated that they would gladly come around the counter to present materials or take questions from Fair patrons. No modifications are being recommended.

KANSAS WILDLIFE AND PARKS EXHIBIT

The counter is 48 1/4" high, with an additional counter at 46".

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a counter, or a section of counter, a maximum of 36" high and at least 36" in length (Section 7.2 (1)).

Kansas Lottery Building

The Kansas Lottery Building has implemented the recommendations made in the previous report.

There is a ramp leading to a large drum where prize drawings are held during the Fair. The ramp slope is in excess of the maximum 8.33% permitted for ADA compliance. A conversation with Mr. Stuart Baker, Enforcement Agent and Mr. Jim Rush, Project Manager (Marketing) revealed that if anyone cannot negotiate the ramp, a staffer will drop the ticket in the drum for that person.

There are outside ticket sales windows which are higher than permitted for compliance. The interior ticket sales location features a lowered section of counter that is in compliance.



SUGGESTIONS

- ❑ ADA, Inc. suggests that signage be displayed informing patrons that assistance is available. It is suggested that the signage be modeled after the signage developed for vendors in collaboration with ADA, Inc. staff during the second visit.



- ❑ ADA, Inc. suggests that signage be displayed at each end of the outside sales area informing patrons that an accessible ticket counter is available inside. The signage should display the International Symbol of Accessibility.

Dairy Tie Barn

There are two shower stalls in each rest room, Men's and Women's. Each stall has a water curb; there are no accessible features.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ ADA, Inc. recommends the installation of one transfer shower in each rest room. These showers are not limited to use by people with disabilities only; anyone can use them.

Pride of Kansas Building

ENTRANCE



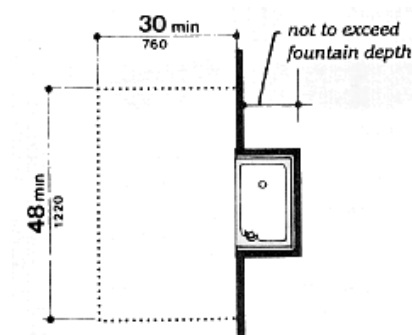
Exterior power-assisted door opener is blocked by chairs.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Door opening controls must have a clear space of at least 30" by 48" in front of them (4.27.2).

FOUNTAIN

The fountain is recessed 16" into an alcove. A person using a wheelchair must be able to perform a parallel approach to the fountain. This cannot be done if the fountain is recessed this deeply. Section 4.15.5 (2) requires that the depth of the recess cannot exceed the depth of the fountain. See Fig. 27 below.



KANSAS AGRICULTUREAL STATISTICS

The counter height is 44”.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ A portion of information counters must be a maximum of 36” high, with a minimum length of 36”. OR the space at the side of the counter can be used to hand materials back and forth (Section 7.2.2 (iii)).

Meadowlark Building

There is an exterior door control that is located in such a manner that a person who presses the button is within the swing of the door. That individual would need to move to avoid being hit by the door.



SUGGESTION

- ❑ The swing of a door should not intrude into the clear floor space of the operating controls. A person with a disability is at risk of being hit by the swinging door.

STATE OF KANSAS TREASURER

The counter height is 41”.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ A portion of information counters must be a maximum of 36” high, with a minimum length of 36”. OR the space at the side of the counter can be used to hand materials back and forth (Section 7.2.2 (iii)).

SPACE # 023

Suzie's Candles exhibit blocks access to the interior controls of the automatic door opener.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ In the future, block out the exhibit space in a manner that will leave a clear floor space of at least 30" x 48" in front of all door operating controls (Section 4.27.2).

SPACE # 005

Woodcraft Homes exhibit blocks access to the interior controls of the automatic door opener.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ In the future, block out the exhibit space in a manner that will leave a clear floor space of at least 30" x 48" in front of all door operating controls (Section 4.27.2).

Fine Arts and Floriculture Building

FOUNTAIN

The fountain has a spout height of 39", 3" higher than permitted for compliance. Clear floor space is only 27 ½" deep. The path of travel to the fountain is 32" wide. Modifications are required for compliance.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Lower the fountain to provide a spout height that is a maximum of 36" high, and move the display cases shown in the photo to provide a path of travel to the fountain that is at least 36" wide. The fountain should also provide 30" x 48" clear floor space. OR
The Fair could install a bottled water dispenser in another part of the building. The dispenser should have clear floor space of at least 30" x 48".

Dairy Goats and Swine (formerly Swine and Sheep)

ENTRANCE

There are two entrances to the facility. The primary entrance was closed during the initial evaluation but was open on the second visit. The secondary entrance adjacent to the Men's Room has a step into the entrance. Steps cannot be part of an accessible route.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Install directional signage directing people who use wheelchairs to the accessible entrance (Section 4.1.2 (19) (c)).

MEN'S ROOM

The Women's Room was evaluated during the initial phase of the project. The Men's Room was locked during the initial visit. Please refer to Appendix A Dairy Goats and Swine Compliance Summary at the end of this report.

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM

The Dairy Goats and Swine facility uses a public address system. There are no features for people with hearing disabilities.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Where audio communications are essential to the use of a space and the space holds more than 50 people, or if the space has an audio-amplification system, an assistive listening system is required (Section 4.1.3 (19) (b)).

Signage must be displayed informing patrons of the availability of the system.

SEATING

Seating is in portable bleachers. Because they are not fixed seating there is no requirement for wheelchair seating locations. This arrangement means that people who use wheelchairs stick out at the end of rows in the bleachers. This occurs not only in the Dairy Goats and Swine facility; it occurs in several others as well. The Expo center and Farm Bureau Arena share this problem.

SUGGESTION

- ❑ Bleacher seating systems with wheelchair seating locations are available. Explore the purchase of such systems.

KANSAS FAA SHOWCASE

ENTRANCE

There is a 3" change in level at the entrance. During the initial visit, a portable ramp was available. It was not seen during this visit.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a ramp at the entrance. The ramp should have a horizontal run of at least three feet to provide a 1:12 slope. A slope of 1:8 is acceptable for compliance here. ADA, Inc. strongly suggests using 1:12 or better. It would be a much better solution and provide Fair patrons with an entrance that is much easier to negotiate.

Rabbit Barn

ENTRANCE

The Rabbit Barn has a 1" change in level at the entrance on Pride of Kansas Avenue, making this an inaccessible entrance.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Modify the change in level at this entrance so that it does not exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
- ❑ If this action cannot be performed, install directional signage at this entrance directing people with disabilities to the accessible entrance on 20th Avenue.

Birthing Center

The Kansas State Fair has implemented the recommendations made in the previous report and corrected the threshold issues at the entrance as well as improving the grade on the exterior path of travel to the entrance.



Section V – Games of Chance

The games of chance appeared to be offered solely by Farrow Shows, a carnival vendor operating under contract with the Kansas State Fair.

WATER GUN RUN

All of the playing stations at the Water Gun Run have built-in stools. There are no wheelchair seating locations where a person using a wheelchair can approach the gameplay equipment. Game operators reach over the top of the game to make transactions.

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- At least one wheelchair seating location should be provided.

SKILL CRANES

The Skill Cranes game controller is a crank, which requires twisting of the wrist to operate.

Ordinarily, controls cannot require tight grasping or twisting of the wrist to operate. ADA, Inc. views the crank as a basic part of the game itself and does not recommend any modifications.

BOTTLE UP

The Bottle Up game presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

During the evaluation of the Bottle Up game, representatives of ADA, Inc. were approached by a representative of Farrow Shows, which provided the game. The representative informed ADA, Inc. staff that he did not allow people with disabilities to play Bottle Up. The incident was reported to the appropriate staff of the Kansas State Fair.

GOBLET PITCH

The Goblet Pitch game presents no structural barriers to game play. No modifications are being suggested.

100 SHOTS

There is no accessible route to the gaming area. 100 Shots has a 5" step up to the game platform. Steps or stairs cannot be part of an accessible route (Section 4.3.8).

COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Provide a ramp that will allow patrons who cannot use steps to reach the gaming area. Where space limitations prohibit the use of a ramp with a slope of 1:12 or better, a slope between 1:10 and 1:12 is permitted for a maximum rise of 6". ADA, Inc. strongly suggests a maximum slope of 1:12, and believes that to be feasible in this location.

BLOCKBUSTER

The Blockbuster game presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

FINDING NEMO

The game Finding Nemo presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

NOTE: The operator of Finding Nemo informed ADA, Inc. staff that he is more than willing to provide any assistance necessary to patrons with disabilities.

TUBS OF FUN

The Tubs of Fun game presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

TOON TOWN

The Toon Town game presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

RACERS EDGE

The Racers Edge game presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

ONE IN WINS

The One in Wins game presents no structural barriers to game play by people with disabilities. No modifications are being suggested.

Section VI – Fair Set Up Issues

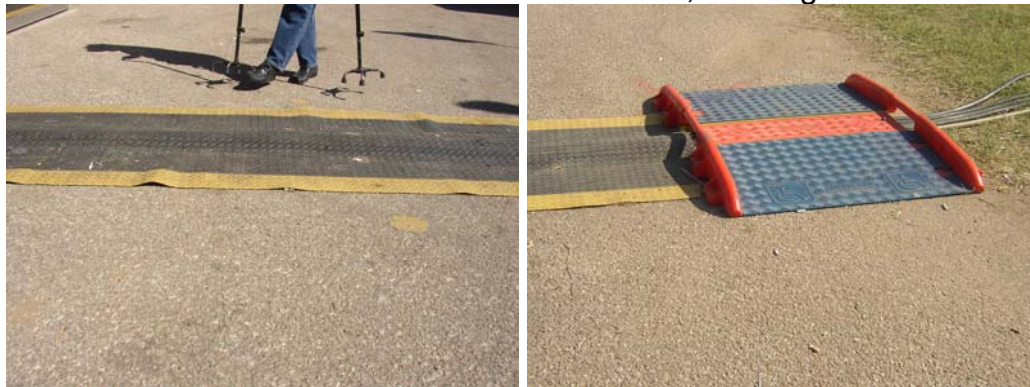
Carnival Midway

There is no accessible route along the full length of the Midway. The electrical cables that cross the Midway create a change in level of 1" or more. An accessible route cannot have any change in level greater than $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



In several interviews with ADA, Inc. staff, patrons expressed their difficulties in crossing over the cables in wheelchairs.

Farrow Shows has made a clear effort to address the problem. They put heavy rubberized mats down over cables in some locations. They also provided several "bridges" over the cables. Unfortunately, there were not enough bridges or mats. The mats are insufficient as a solution; a change in level still remains.

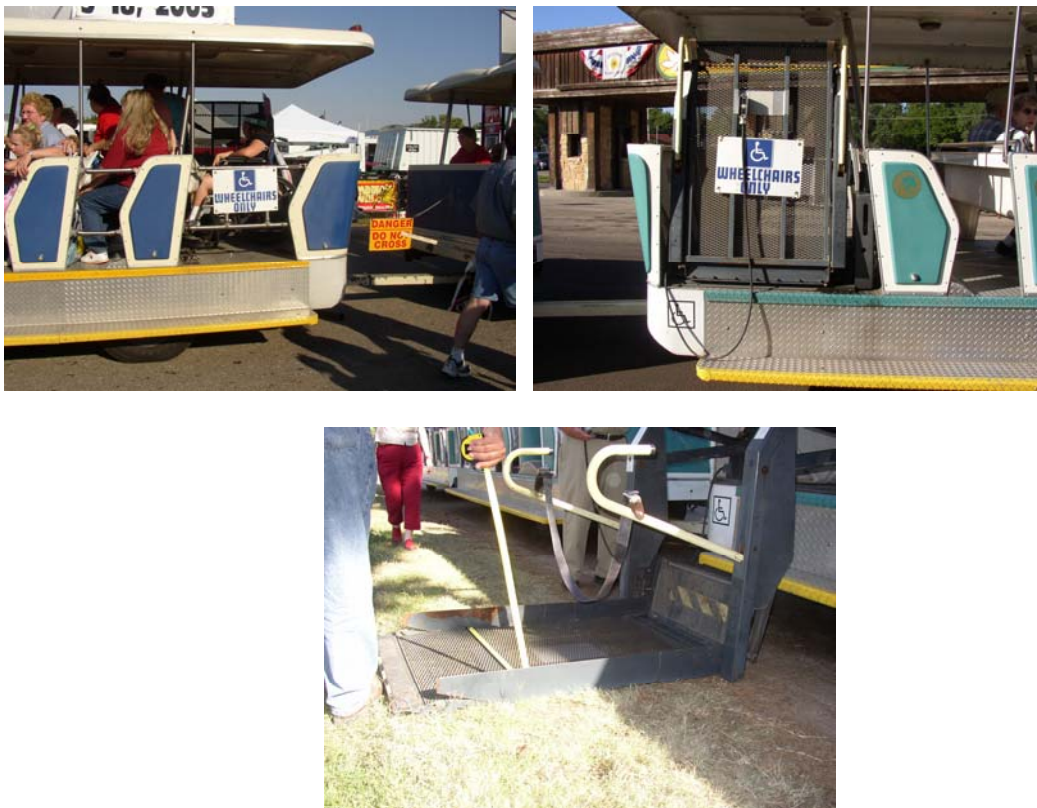


COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Require Farrow Shows to provide enough bridges to provide at least one to place over each set of cables that cross the Midway.

Tram

There is a People Mover at the Fair. The design specifications of the lift were not available at the time of the ADA, Inc. evaluation. The lift had the appropriate platform barriers. The lift was in apparently good working order and was seen in use by staff of ADA, Inc. The securement system was in good working order and permitted a wheelchair user to sit facing forward.



No modifications are required for compliance.

E-9 Entrance

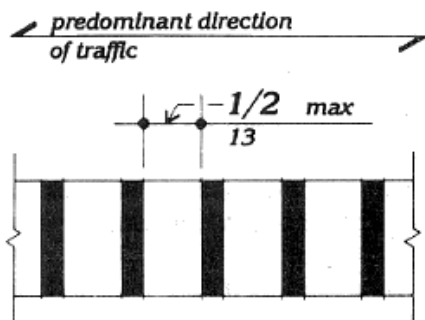
There is a grate at the E-9 entrance located in the walking surface and directly in the path of travel to the entrance. The openings of the grate are $7/8$ " wide, and located parallel to the path of travel.

There is an accessible route for people with disabilities coming from the parking lot to the E-9 entrance. However, patrons who use wheelchairs must leave the area protected by a barricade, which include curb ramps, and travel outside the barricade while being exposed to the vehicle traffic coming into the parking lot.



SUGGESTION

- ❑ Replace the grate with one that has openings no greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide in one direction. Grates with elongated openings must be placed so that the long dimension is perpendicular to the path of travel (Section 4.5.4). See figure below.



- ❑ Move the barriers to allow people who use wheelchairs to take advantage of the protection offered by the barriers.

PORTABLE TOILET

The designated accessible portable toilet at this location does not have the required interior clear floor space. The measurements are 58" x 59". The toilet paper dispenser is located over the grab bar. The unit is not identified with the International Symbol of Accessibility.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❑ Single user portable toilets must provide clear floor space to allow for a turning space 60" in diameter, or a T-shaped space with 36" legs (Section 4.1.2 (6))
- ❑ The units must be identified with the International Symbol of Accessibility.

ATM's

Automatic teller machines are brought in for the duration of the Fair. The ATM's do not have features for people with visual disabilities. While there are Braille characters on the control buttons, it does not appear that they will allow a person with a visual disability to make full use of the ATM. The ATM at the Expo Center and the Information Center are two examples.



COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ Instructions and all information for use must be accessible to and independently usable by people with visual disabilities (Section 4.34.5).

ADA, Inc. suggests that the Kansas State Fair seek a vendor with ATM's that provide audio capability.

Section VII – Patron Questionnaires

Summary of Comments

Introduction

During the time that ADA, Inc. staff attended the Kansas State Fair, a number of fair patrons with disabilities were approached and asked a series of questions designed to determine what their experience had been previously (if applicable) and how they would rate their current experience at the Kansas State Fairgrounds as it related to accessibility.

These questions were specific to site issues (parking, exterior path of travel), facilities (craft areas, concession areas, rest rooms and events).

A section of questions on the Grandstand included those about the availability of accessible seats, their proximity to rest rooms and concessions as well as their viewing distance to the stage.

Finally, patrons were asked what one thing they would like to see improved for next year's fair regarding accessibility.

Results

The overall negative/needs improving comments centered on the following:

- ❑ There were cables running throughout the Fairgrounds that made it difficult for patrons using wheelchairs or other mobility devices to overcome. In some locations there were small ramps, but not enough.
- ❑ Some ground surfaces were difficult to use.
- ❑ Need for maps and directional signage to events and buildings
- ❑ Patrons wanted more seats together in the HP section at the Grandstand so that they could sit with family or friends

On the other hand, the overwhelming comments were positive. They centered on the following:

- ❑ Most respondents reported no problems with accessible parking
- ❑ Many respondents commented on the ease of getting in and out of buildings due to the number of automatic door openers
- ❑ Several specifically commented on the improvements made at the Grandstand

These comments were offered repeatedly.

There were a series of 5 separate questions asked about the patrons' experiences at the Grandstand related to the accessible seats. With the exception of one response (where the band's equipment blocked the view of a patron), every answer to the question "After the 2001 Fair, have you had a pleasant experience at an event at the Grandstand?" was answered with a "Yes".

A closing, yet fitting quote from a patron "You guys have been doing a great job getting things in order."